

CERCOSPORA LEAF SPOT OF VIBURNUM

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Viburnum odoratissimum Ker., native of the Orient from India to Japan, is an ever-green shrub that grows up to 10 feet (3 m) tall in 5 to 6 years (1). Leaves are oval, bright green and up to 6 inches (15 cm) long. It is widely used as a screen or hedge because of its dense foliage. *Viburnum* grows fast, is cold hardy, and does well in sun or shade (3,4).

Cercospora leaf spot of *viburnum* is caused by *Cercospora viburnicola* Ray (2,5). It also occurs on *V. opulus* L. (5), as well as *V. japonicum* (Thunb.) Spreng., *V. suspensum* Lindl. and *V. tinus* L. (Plant Disease Records, Division of Plant Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, FL, unpublished).

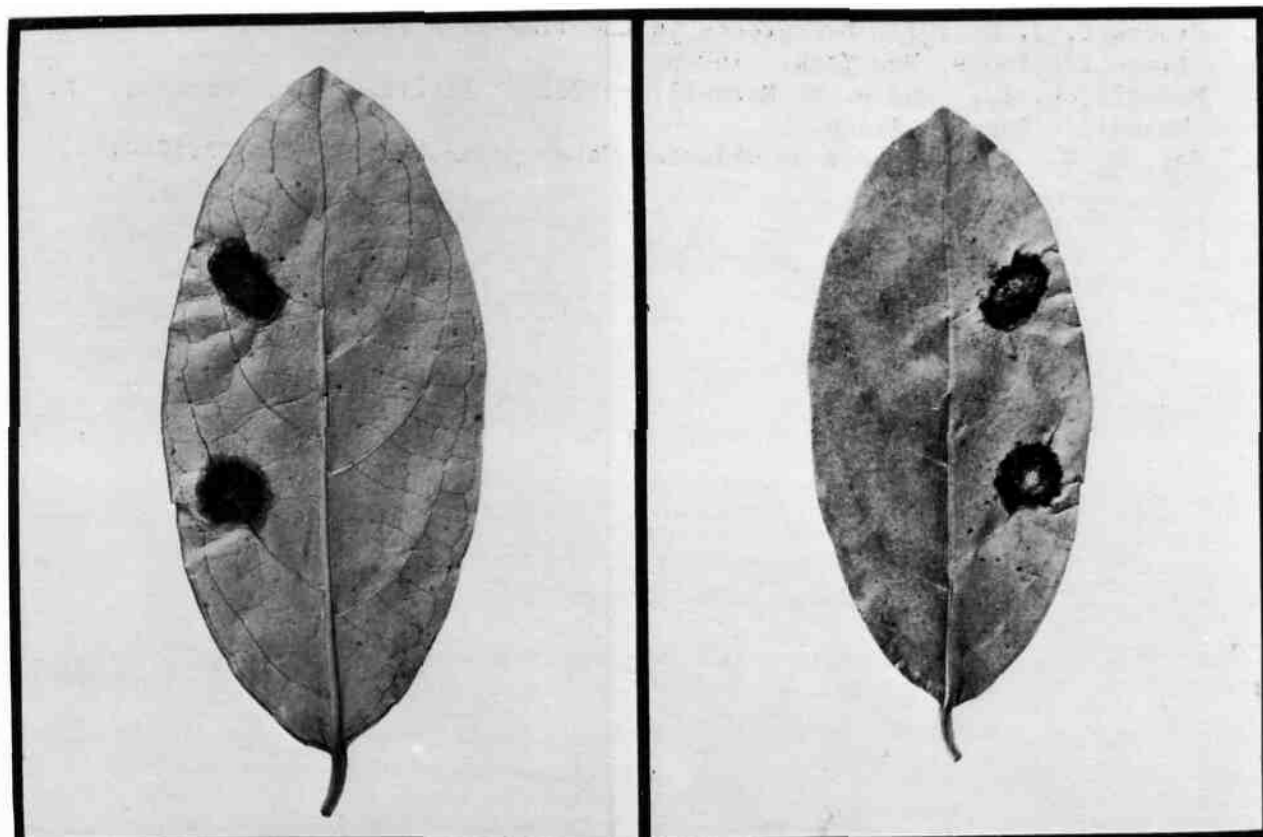


Fig. 1. *Cercospora* leaf spot of *Viburnum odoratissimum*: left, leaf spots without gray center; right, leaf spots with gray center.

SYMPTOMS

Leaf spots are subcircular and angular to irregular, involving small to large portions of the leaf. They are reddish to grayish brown.

CONTROL

Fungicides recommended for general control of diseases on ornamentals such as Benlate, Daconil, Dithane M 45, etc., should help control this disease. Applications to the foliage should be thorough and made soon after the first symptoms of leaf spot occur.

SURVEY AND DETECTION

Look for rather large angular to irregular, reddish to grayish brown leaf spots on older, mature leaves during warm, moist summer months.

Literature Cited

1. Bailey, L. H. 1971. Manual of cultivated plants. The MacMillan Co. New York. 1116 p.
2. Chupp, C. 1953. A monograph of the fungus genus Cercospora. Ithaca, New York. 667 p.
3. Crockett, J. U. 1973. Evergreens in the Time-Life Encyclopedia of Gardening. Time-Life Books, New York. 160 p.
4. Maxwell, L. S., and B. M. Maxwell. 1961. Florida Plant Selector. L. S. Maxwell. Tampa. 114 p.
5. Ray, W. W. 1941. Notes on Oklahoma Cercosporae. Mycologia 33:174-177.